

## **ABSTRACT**

### **Outreach education and support to General Practices by Genetic Counsellors: A demonstration project using familial cancer guidelines.**

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#### **Project description:**

This project aimed to evaluate the impact of having a Genetic Counsellor providing education and support to primary care professionals. Ten primary health care practices were recruited to take part, and they received 2 to 4 educational sessions, which though centred on familial cancer guidelines (specifically breast/ovarian and colorectal cancers), also included information about other conditions, according to the needs of the practice populations. All of the practices were also offered support from the genetic counsellor, either through discussion concerning specific patients, or through direct referral of patients. The evaluation of the service included baseline and post intervention data collection, both for the recording of family history information in the patients' medical records and also attitudinal/knowledge-based information, collected through a survey of General Practitioners and Practice Nurses. Structured interviews with practice staff were also conducted post intervention to assess the impact of the intervention, and to identify how the service might be improved for wider use.